

ON A NEW *PIELUS* FROM THE BLUE MOUNTAINS.

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(Plate xxxix).

In this paper we have drawn up a description of the finely coloured Hepialid which was exhibited at the June meeting of this Society. The specimen was found at rest on a tree-stump at Lawson, in the Blue Mountains, at an elevation of 2,400 feet above the sea level, and had evidently only just emerged from the pupa as the empty case was seen projecting from its subterranean burrow at no great distance. The specimen appears to be a typical male *Pielus* belonging to a very distinct new species. We propose to call it *P. imperialis*.

HEPIALIDÆ.

PIELUS IMPERIALIS, sp.n.

♂ Antennæ reddish brown; palpi bright red. Head and thorax brick-red, the latter brownish in front; abdomen tinged with purple. Forewing bright brick-red, inclining to brownish red near the hind-margin, with a longitudinal series of large bright silver spots on the disc, extending from near the base to just beyond the extremity of the discoidal cell, and an oblique band of narrow elongate silvery spots, near and parallel to the hind-margin, which does not attain the extremity of the wing; the discal band composed of four irregular markings, the one nearest the base very elongate and bi-constricted, the second somewhat oblique, the last about twice as long as the third which is situated below the internal apical angle of the cell; the hind-marginal band interrupted and somewhat incurved in the middle, the markings closely contiguous. Hindwing dull brownish red, brighter along the veins, tinged with bright purple at the base. Underside dull brownish red, all the wings thickly pubescent and purplish near the base. Expanse of wings 135 mm.; length of body 52 mm.

Lawson, New South Wales (2,400 feet); in December, 1886.

In the simple pectinate structure of the antennæ and in all other essential characters this species agrees with *Pielus hyalinatus*, Herr. Sch., but its brilliant colour and conspicuous markings will distinguish it at once from all the known members of the genus.

A female specimen,* measuring 182 mm., obtained at Katoomba, about eight miles from Lawson, in February, 1884, is probably the female of the form described above; it is without markings and is of a tawny brownish red colour, faintly tinged with purplish on the abdomen and at the bases of the hind wings.

* Both the ♂ and ♀ specimens were collected by Mr. Prince.